

REMARKS

Applicants will address the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claim 76 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite.

In order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended Claim 76 to delete the word “crystalline” before “semiconductor film” in line 7. As there is sufficient antecedent basis for the term “the semiconductor film” in the claim, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 60, 64, 71 and 74

The Examiner also rejects Claims 60, 64, 71 and 74 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Tang et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 60 and 71 to recite that the insulating film in Claim 60 comprises a resin and that the leveling film in Claim 71 comprises a resin. Support for this feature is found, for example, at page 32, lns. 3-12 of the present application.

In contrast, in the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that film 52 in Tang is the claimed insulating film or leveling film. Tang, however, states that insulating layer 52 is “preferably

silicon dioxide” (Col. 7, Ins. 13-14 in Tang). As this is not a resin, Tang fails to disclose or suggest the insulating or leveling film of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the rejected claims are patentable over the cited reference, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 60, 62-64, 71, 73 and 74

The Examiner also rejects Claims 60, 62-64, 71, 73 and 74 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Hamada et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

As explained above, while Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 60 and 71 to recite that the insulating film in Claim 60 comprises a resin and that the leveling film in Claim 71 comprises a resin.

In contrast, in the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that film 35 in Hamada is the claimed insulating film or leveling film. Hamada, however, states that “[e]ach of the insulator films 35 and 39 is preferably comprises a silicon oxide film, silicon nitride film or a silicon nitride oxide film” (Col. 6, Ins. 65-67 in Hamada). As this is not a resin, Hamada fails to disclose or suggest the insulating or leveling film of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the rejected claims are patentable over the cited reference, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 60-64, 71-74

The Examiner also rejects Claims 60-64 and 71-74 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada. This rejection also is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claim 60 to recite that the electroluminescence element comprises a first electrode formed on the passivation film, a light emitting layer formed on the first electrode and a second electrode formed on the light emitting layer, and have amended independent Claim 71 to recite that the electroluminescence element comprises an anode, a cathode and a light emitting layer interposed therebetween. The claims also recite that the electroluminescence layer is formed over the passivation film.

In contrast, while Yamada may teach that an electroluminescence element comprises an anode, a cathode and a light emitting layer interposed therebetween, Yamada fails to teach that such an electroluminescence element is located over the alleged first passivation film 19. Instead, in Yamada, anode 61 is located below the passivation film 19. Hence, Yamada fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the rejected claims are patentable over the cited reference, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 65, 67, 75 and 76

The Examiner also rejects Claims 65, 67, 75 and 76 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamada in view of Yukasaka. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

In the Office Action, it appears that the Examiner is contending that Hamada teaches all the claimed limitations except for the claimed step of forming a second passivation film over the electroluminescent element.

As explained above, while Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 65, 75

and 76 to recite that the insulating film in Claim 60 comprises a resin and that the leveling film in Claims 75 and 76 comprise a resin.

As explained above, Hamada (and Yudasaka) does not disclose or suggest the insulating or leveling film of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the rejected claims are patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 65-67, 69, 75 and 76

The Examiner also rejects Claims 65-67, 69, 75 and 76 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Yudasaka. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 65 and 75 to recite that the electroluminescence element comprises an anode, a cathode and a light emitting layer or organic material interposed therebetween and amended independent Claim 76 to recite that the light emitting element comprises a first electrode formed on the second insulating film, an electroluminescence layer formed adjacent the first electrode and a second electrode formed on the electroluminescence layer. The claims also recite that the electroluminescence layer or light emitting element comprising an electroluminescence layer is formed over the first passivation film or second insulating film

In contrast, while Yamada may teach that an electroluminescence element comprises an anode, a cathode and a light emitting layer interposed therebetween, Yamada (and Yudasaka) fails to teach that such an electroluminescence element is located over the alleged first passivation film 19. Instead, in Yamada, anode 61 is located below the passivation film 19. Hence, Yamada (and Yudasaka) fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the rejected claims are patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 68 and 70

The Examiner also rejects Claims 68 and 70 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Yudsaka and further in view of Kikukawa. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these rejected claims is a dependent claim. Accordingly, these claims are allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

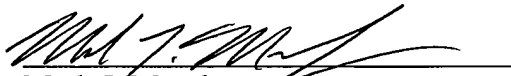
It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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